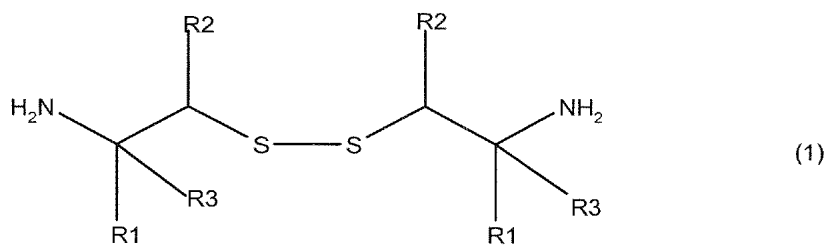


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Compound characterized in that it corresponds to formula (1)



in which

- each group R<sup>1</sup> is identical to the other group R<sup>1</sup> and represents:
  - a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl group,
  - a (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>benzyl group in which n is equal to 0 or 1,
  - a (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>(C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl) group in which m is equal to 0 or 1,

each of the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, benzyl or cycloalkyl groups being substituted with one or two group(s) represented by the group A;

- the group A represents:
  - a carboxylate group  $\text{COOH}$  or  $\text{COOR}$ , R representing a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkyl or  $\text{CH}_2\text{phenyl}$  group;
  - a sulfonate group  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  or  $\text{SO}_3\text{R}'$ ,  $\text{R}'$  representing a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkyl or  $\text{CH}_2\text{phenyl}$  group;
  - a phosphonate group  $\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$  or  $\text{PO}_3\text{R}_2''\text{R}'''$ ,  $\text{R}''$  and  $\text{R}'''$  independently representing H, or a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkyl or  $\text{CH}_2\text{phenyl}$  group;
- each group  $\text{R}^2$  is identical to the other group  $\text{R}^2$  and represents a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_2$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkenyl or  $\text{C}_2$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkynyl group, each alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group being free or substituted with the group B;
- the group B represents:
  - a carboxylate group,  $\text{COOH}$  or  $\text{COOR}'$ ,  $\text{R}'$  representing a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_6$  alkyl or  $\text{CH}_2\text{phenyl}$  group;
  - a phenyl group that is free or substituted with one or more radicals chosen from a halogen atom, an optionally protected hydroxyl radical, a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_4$  alkyl group, a cyano group, a free, salified or esterified carboxyl group or an amide group;
- each group  $\text{R}^3$  is identical to the other group  $\text{R}^3$  and represents a hydrogen atom.

2. (Original) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that  $R^1$  is chosen from  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_2$  to  $C_6$  alkenyl and benzyl groups, each of these groups being substituted with one or two group(s) represented by the group A as defined in Claim 1.

3. (Original) Compound according to either of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that  $R^2$  is chosen from a  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkyl group and a  $C_2$  to  $C_6$  alkenyl group, it being possible for each of these groups to be substituted with one or two group(s) represented by the group B as defined in Claim 1.

4. (Original) Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that  $R^1$  represents an ethyl group substituted with a sulfonic group, a phosphonic group or a carboxylic group, that is free, salified or esterified, and  $R^2$  represents an ethyl group substituted with a free or substituted phenyl group.

5. (Original). Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that it is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

6. (Original) Compound according to Claim 5, characterized in that it is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition, characterized in that it comprises a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6.

9. (Previously presented) A method of selectively inhibiting aminopeptidase A, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an efficient amount of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for treating arterial hypertension which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an efficient amount of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a disease selected from the group consisting of primary or secondary arterial hypertension, cardiac insufficiency and renal insufficiency, myocardial infarction, ~~a peripheral vascular disease~~, diabetic proteinuria, which

comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an efficient amount of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

Claims 19 - 20. (Cancelled)